

Appl. No. 09/925,881
Amdt. dated February 27, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of August 27, 2003

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 – 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A guidewire system, comprising:

a first wire including a body member comprising a wall defining a lumen, and a female threaded member disposed within the lumen proximate a first end of the body member; and

a second wire including a second body member having a second end, and an engagement structure adapted to threadingly engage the female thread of the first wire disposed about the body member of the second wire proximate the second end of the second wire;

wherein the engagement structure is a male thread disposed about the body member of the second wire proximate the second end thereof and wherein a portion of the male thread ~~[[threaded]]~~ of the first wire is adapted to deform when the male thread threadingly engages the female thread of the first wire.

26-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A guidewire system comprising:

a first wire member including a body defining a lumen, and a female thread disposed within the lumen proximate an end of the first wire member; and

a second wire member including body member having a male thread disposed about the body member proximate an end of the second wire member, the male thread adapted to threadingly engage the female thread and including a first portion and a second portion which is different from the first portion, the second portion adapted to ~~[[deform]]~~ be more deformable than the first portion when the male thread is threaded into the female thread.

31. (Previously Presented) The guidewire system of claim 30, wherein the deformation of the second portion of the male thread acts to inhibit rotation of the first member relative to the second member.

32. (Previously Presented) The guidewire system of claim 30, wherein the second portion of the male thread includes a different thread pitch from the first portion of the male thread.

33. (Previously Presented) The guidewire system of claim 30, wherein the second portion of the male thread includes a different thread size from the first portion of the male thread.

34. (Previously Presented) A guidewire system, comprising:
a first wire having a first end;
a second wire having a second end; and
means for coupling the first end of the first wire to the second end of the second wire, the means including a female thread and a male thread adapted to threadingly engage, the male thread including a first portion and a second portion that is different from first portion and that is adapted to deform when threadingly engaged with the female thread.